

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 832

By Maddox

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Mr. Jerry E. Carpenter upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens who, through unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Mr. Jerry E. Carpenter, who has devoted more than 30 years as an outstanding basketball and football official; on March 18, 2006, Mr. Carpenter will be inducted into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Hall of Fame, a most befitting recognition of his outstanding service to Tennessee's schools and athletic programs; and

WHEREAS, an active official in both football and basketball for over thirty-six years, Mr. Carpenter has worked numerous tournaments, playoff, and championship games while establishing a sterling reputation as a noted leader in the training of officials; and

WHEREAS, during his remarkable career as a TSSAA basketball official, Mr. Carpenter has officiated both district and regional tournaments for thirty-five years, officiated twenty-nine sub-state tournament games, and called seven state tournaments, and has served for twenty-five years as an official for junior college and NAIA basketball and ten years as an official for both the men's and women's basketball leagues of the Ohio Valley Conference; and

WHEREAS, highly respected by his peers and colleagues, Mr. Carpenter stood for two years as TSSAA Supervisor of Officials in the North-West Basketball Association, helped supervise junior high and "B" officials for the North-West Basketball Association, co-directed the

first Class A West Sectional basketball tournament at the University of Tennessee at Martin, and served on the TSSAA basketball camp for supervisors of high school basketball officials; and

WHEREAS, a renowned official on the gridiron, Jerry Carpenter has served as the commissioner and assigning officer for the North-West Football Officials Association for twenty-four years; his duties have included recruiting, training, teaching, supervising, and making game assignments for sixteen high schools; and

WHEREAS, throughout an extraordinary career, during which he served as the Supervisor of the first TSSAA state football officials camp, Mr. Carpenter has officiated forty-eight state football playoff games, sixteen bowl games, and six state football championship games; and

WHEREAS, employed for thirty-four years by the University of Tennessee at Martin as the Manager of the bookstore, Mr. Carpenter took a well deserved retirement on August 30, 2002, from that position, assuming the head coaching duties of the university's golf team; he is now entering his third year as Head Coach of the Skyhawk golf team; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his duties as a TSSAA official and UT-Martin employee, Mr. Carpenter coached Little League and Babe Ruth baseball for eight years, was involved in high school golf for four years, and served as a volunteer coach during the 2001-2002 school year for the UT-Martin golf team; and

WHEREAS, a pillar of the Weakley County community and involved in local activities for over twenty-five years, Jerry Carpenter ably served as a member of the Weakley County Commission for four years and was a member of the Weakley County School Board for six years; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Jerry Carpenter received the Distinguished Service Award in 1986 from the National Federation of High School Athletics for contributions in officiating at the high school level, won the TSSAA's Distinguished Service Award in 1988, and was named "Official of the Year " for 1998-99 by the TSSAA; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious career, Jerry Carpenter has been supported by his loving wife, Linda Scates Carpenter, his two children, Dana Evans and Scott Carpenter, and his grandson Brett and granddaughter Brooke; and

WHEREAS, for the above accomplishments, his impeccable moral standards, and impressive work ethic, Mr. Jerry Carpenter has been selected for induction into the TSSAA Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Carpenter, as a man of true character and commitment, has earned the respect and admiration of his fellow Tennesseans for his tireless efforts in molding the State's youth and guiding them with solid principles and high standards on the athletic fields and should be properly recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join the family, friends, and colleagues of Mr. Jerry Carpenter in congratulating him upon his induction into in the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame, honor and commend him for his substantial legacy as an official, and offer our heartfelt thanks for the dedication which he has shown this State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.